



## Las Vegas welcomes 35 Filipino teachers

**LAS VEGAS**—After being chosen by Nevada and fellow educators to teach for three years in the United States, 35 Philippine-style educators, "they said, please!" in total said a state on the line as the 34 other Filipino teachers arrived Sunday at McCaskey International Airport.

The 34-year-old state teacher, plane to LAS VEGAS.

# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS

## Sandigan programmed to convict Erap-Saguin

**By Nelson P. Reyes**

**LAS VEGAS**—The Sandiganbayan, the Philippine anti-graft court, is programmed to convict Erap-Saguin, President Joseph Estrada's friend and confidante, of plunder.

www.inquirer.com.ph

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website: www.inq.net

# Palace now mum on Zuce

## Bunye: No more comments on charges

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

**MALACANANG** appears to be stonewalling on specific issues regarding the charge Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano and his nephew, whistle-blower Nicholas Angelo Zuce.

Aside from issuing verbal denials of Zuce's account of how President Manuel Arroyo allegedly conspired with poll officials to rig last year's elections, Palace spokesmen have refused to comment on Garcillano and Zuce, consistently on specific allegations against the President.

As a press briefing, Press Secretary Graciano Sison was not asked questions.

Bunye was asked why the government, with all its resources, could not locate Garcillano. Zuce claimed to have sought permission from Garcillano before meeting with publicly with his brother-in-law.

Bunye says he is confident in the integrity of his brother's narrative, which he released in January 2004 at his Queen City home, where alleged gambling money was reportedly distributed to his relatives.

Bunye replied, "Maybe that is something that you can answer yourself if you ask him. I have no information."

When asked if the President was aware that Garcillano was not against him, Bunye was reluctant to say. "I feel your independence is what matters here," he said. "I am sure that, first, you are a person to be trusted."

Bunye also repeats what he said in a statement on whether Malacanan was a full official in leaving Garcillano. "The way I know, I know that, I have to be honest. I am not sure."

There is no answer today at the residence of the President's brother-in-law, who is living on a private island, according to Bunye.

In a press briefing, Bunye was asked to clarify Zuce's statement. Bunye said:



**INDIGNOUS PROTEST** Vice President Noyen and his family leave for Riyadh on Tuesday to represent the country in the funeral of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. His presidential cabinet on (left), the Queen said to be a wife of a "Champion of Defiant Filipinos." Nearly 100,000 OFWs live in Saudi Arabia. De Cuenca is scheduled to return on Friday. (Story on Page A1)

## First Couple no mood to celebrate 37th

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

**THEY** were in no mood to celebrate their 37th anniversary, President Arroyo and the First Lady, Noyen, said.

"I don't think there would be any celebration," Press Secretary Graciano Sison said. "The way we will know, the First Couple came here for the personal reason of the mother who died. We are not for the death of the mother."

Arroyo and the First Lady, Noyen, said.

"I don't think there would be any celebration," Press Secretary Graciano Sison said. "The way we will know, the First Couple came here for the personal reason of the mother who died. We are not for the death of the mother."

Arroyo said the First Couple was not here to celebrate the 37th anniversary of their wedding. "We are here for the personal reason of the mother who died. We are not for the death of the mother."

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## Who doesn't know Tita Baby Pineda?

By Teresa Orjio  
PFI Central-South Desk

**CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO**—Baby Pineda, a 10-year-old girl, is a famous figure in the city. She is the daughter of a famous actor and a famous actress.

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**LADY OF THE HOUR** Tita Pineda with her mother, Tita Pineda, and her father, Baby Pineda.

## Zuce 'not just Palace functionary'

By Fa Zamora

**PHILIPPINE NEWS**—Manila's Zuce may not just be a "Palace functionary" in Malacanan, officials here believe.

A political insider here, Zuce is not just a "Palace functionary" in Malacanan, officials here believe. He is a "Palace functionary" in Malacanan, officials here believe.

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## GMA 'brilliant, tenacious,' says outgoing US diplomat

By Van Canencia

**OSCARA** public and private media outlets are "brilliant, tenacious," said outgoing US Ambassador to the Philippines, James Foley.

Such encouragement for the Philippine media came from the outgoing US Ambassador to the Philippines, James Foley.

US Charge d'Affaires Joseph Muscati, who heads the US mission in Manila, said the Philippine media is "brilliant, tenacious," said outgoing US Ambassador to the Philippines, James Foley.

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**THE ORDER OF SAGI** James Foley, outgoing US Ambassador to the Philippines, with his wife and children.

**WEATHER FORECAST**  
 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER'S WEATHER FORECAST  
 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER'S WEATHER FORECAST  
 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER'S WEATHER FORECAST

# Second FRONTPAGE

Read our special frontpage supplement tomorrow (August 20, 2009) at P10 (P1000 or P10000)

Area	Forecast	Area	Forecast
Manila	Cloudy to Rainy	Subsidiary	Cloudy
Quezon City	Cloudy to Rainy	Albay	Cloudy
Taguig	Cloudy to Rainy	Marikina	Cloudy
Alabang	Cloudy to Rainy	San Juan	Cloudy
Las Alamos	Cloudy to Rainy	San Jose	Cloudy
San Francisco	Cloudy to Rainy	San Pedro	Cloudy
San Ramon	Cloudy to Rainy	San Carlos	Cloudy
San Antonio	Cloudy to Rainy	San Miguel	Cloudy
San Marcos	Cloudy to Rainy	San Isidro	Cloudy
San Mateo	Cloudy to Rainy	San Andres	Cloudy
San Pedro	Cloudy to Rainy	San Juan	Cloudy
San Carlos	Cloudy to Rainy	San Miguel	Cloudy
San Marcos	Cloudy to Rainy	San Isidro	Cloudy
San Mateo	Cloudy to Rainy	San Andres	Cloudy

# Senate to hear new witness today

By TJ Burge

**MICHAELANGELO Zure** will get another chance to tell all about President Macapagal-Arroyo's alleged links to illegal gambling pay-offs and electoral fraud when he appears before the Senate today.



Zure's story was more convincing.

He said that his conviction had enough information to substantiate a report on the legislation of joining that legal suit to be heard by the Senate today.

Senator Defensor Santiago said that Zure's story was more convincing than his previous testimony.

## Sandra Cam faces more legal woes

By TJ Burge

**SANDRA CAM** better stand for the self-censoring legislation.

She said that she was being sued by a group of people who were claiming that she had defamed them in her book.

Zure, a former Filipino staff aide, will appear as a "constructive witness" of Senate Majority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. at the conclusion of the Senate inquiry into the alleged involvement of the late president in illegal gambling pay-offs and electoral fraud.

Zure's testimony was crucial since he was not only one of the few people who knew the late president but also the father of the late president's son, Michael Angelo Zure.

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**ZURE** will be heard in the Senate and the House today.

For the first time since the inquiry opened in June, only Zure's testimony on public order will be considered.

Lopez will be heard in the Senate and the House today.

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# Impeachment case vs GMA faces new hurdle

By Philip C. Tolosa

**THE IMPEACHMENT** complaint filed against President Macapagal-Arroyo is in danger of being pushed despite the move by the House of Representatives to adopt the same impeachment rules that were applied in 2000.

House Majority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said that he would support the move by the House of Representatives to adopt the same impeachment rules that were applied in 2000.

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# GMA allays senators' fears about unicameral

By Philip C. Tolosa

**IT IS A LIE** to say senators' fears about the proposed unicameralism are unfounded, GMA allays senators' fears about unicameralism.

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# BIR sitting on Iggy case?

By Michael V. Sison

**THE BIR** has not yet received the report on the Iggy case, and the BIR is sitting on the Iggy case.

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# Moro rebs' homes rebuilt

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE DEPARTMENT of Social Welfare and Development has turned over to some 50 families of former Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) members and supporters in Lanao del Norte their own houses which they helped build.

The DSWD said Commander Lucky 7, an MILF leader and one of the recipients of the shelter assistance project, expressed his gratitude to the government.

The MILF commander's house and those of his supporters were razed by fire when bombs were dropped there by the military during the armed conflict in 2003.







DIMAATA

ECHPHONG

HASEKUK

RAPANAN

UNCPHAKORN

YOON

## ASIA'S NOBEL PRIZE

## Indon graft buster leads Magsaysay awardees

an INDOONESIAN high school teacher who became the Magsaysay award's anti-graft crusader has been awarded Asia's equivalent of the Nobel Prize.

The Manila-based Ramon Magsaysay Foundation named Toren Mandala on Monday as one of this year's six winners for his work exposing graft and campaigning for public integrity in Indonesia, where corruption is deeply entrenched.

Last year, the corruption watchdog headed by Mandala mounted 672 graft cases involving water agencies, banks, utility companies and even the national oil company.

"In elevating Toren Mandala to one of the 2011 Magsaysay Award for public service, the board of trustees recognizes his challenging Indonesians to expose corruption and claim their right to clean government," the Manila-based foundation said.

Mandala, 42, is the head of Indonesia Corruption Watch (ICW), Jakarta's public-interest lawyer for anti-corruption efforts.

Since 1998, ICW has been conducting reports on corruption and petitions from the public, investigating, publicizing and passing them on to the authorities for action.

Born into a family of farmers, Mandala studied chemistry in college and was a high school teacher before becoming an activist and anti-graft crusader.

"I don't agree with the idea that corruption takes root in culture," he said in a statement released by the foundation.

The other award winners were:

• **An Ungpholue,** a member of the Thai House who fought for the rights and needs of rural, disadvantaged citizens, for government service.

• **Dr. N. Hama,** an Indian doctor who researched and advocated cancer research, for public service.

• **Somdech Somphe,** a Lao agricultural expert who founded the Participatory Development Training Centre to help Lao farmers achieve food security for community leadership.

• **Shiraz Rahman,** the editor of Bangladesh's *Prothom Alo* who crusaded against acid attacks against women and helped Bangladeshis help to many victims, for journalism, literature and creative communication.

• **Hye-Ran Yoon,** a Korean civil society leader who organized social welfare in her native Cheonan for vulnerable sectors, for emergency relief.

The foundation said there was no competition this year in the private and international non-governmental category.

The Ramon Magsaysay Award was established in 1957 in honor of the third Philippine President.

Bureau

## Naia offers assistance — for a fee

By PHILIP Dizon

THE MANILA International Airport Authority (MIAA) has begun to charge fees for special passenger assistance requests — primarily to provide additional passenger services and personal attention, and on the side, to help the airport's financial survival.

The "Value and Status Service" (VSS) can be availed of by "valuable individuals and executives who are willing to pay a premium for a more personalized and comfortable airport experience," said MIAA.

For many years, international individuals — especially from various airport service areas and even the media — have reportedly been providing an "illegal escort service" in airport areas reportedly from serving passengers by offering to assist them and expedite customs, immigration, and quarantine (CIQ) clearance.

The MIAA said that with MIAA, regarding parties are encouraged to contact only with the agency's Public Affairs Office (PAO) and the Department of Tourism (DOT), the only government agency in the airport authorized to provide passenger assistance, because of its security-related role.



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JOHN LUCAS JESSICA BIEL JAMIE FOXX

Continued on pg. 10

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**NOTE:** How long do you think your account will last...and meaning?

**NOTE:** It's hard to say, but we hope it will be long enough for many people to see it.

**NOTE:** What have you done to improve your life?

**NOTE:** I am in a good place, but I am not in a good place.

**NOTE:** What is your life like now?

**NOTE:** I am in a good place, but I am not in a good place.

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Big trouble for the chairman when... **CONFRONTATION** at the press conference. President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Vice President Noli de la Rosa, Speaker of the House Jose de Venecia, and other officials are seen at the press conference.

# Palace now mum on Zuce allegations

**By S. J. [Name]**  
[The text continues with details about the allegations and the President's response.]

**Noted**  
[The text continues with further details about the allegations and the President's response.]

[The text continues with further details about the allegations and the President's response.]

**Opposition hand**  
[The text continues with further details about the allegations and the President's response.]

[The text continues with further details about the allegations and the President's response.]

**More details**  
[The text continues with further details about the allegations and the President's response.]

# Mystery shrouds Rufino statement

**By S. J. [Name]**  
[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

**Not in ICU**  
[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

**Working from Lakes**  
[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

**You aren't here**  
[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

[The text continues with details about the statement and the mystery surrounding it.]

# Sandigan programmed to convict Erap-Saguisag

**By S. J. [Name]**  
[The text continues with details about the case and the Sandigan program.]

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[The text continues with details about the case and the Sandigan program.]





The WORLD

Editor: Lorraine B. Geron

New Saudi king to press fight vs terror

WASHINGTON—The administration of Saudi Arabia's new King, Abdullah, will step up cooperation with the United States in the fight against the "evil axis" of terrorism, a top official of the oil-rich state's embassy here said Monday.

George Dabbous, Saudi ambassador to the United States, said that cooperation in the "evil axis" war on terror "would be the cornerstone of relations between the two allies, aside from working together in the economic field."

He said Abdullah, 57, will take over the throne from his brother, King Fahd, on Aug. 23, 2002, after a period of mourning for the late king who died on Aug. 13, 2002.

around one dozen to be an ally both economically and in the war on terrorism.

The U.S. State Department said it was "excited" to learn that King Abdullah will take over the throne on Aug. 23, 2002, after a period of mourning for the late king who died on Aug. 13, 2002.

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Saudis, world leaders bid farewell to King Fahd

RIYADH—Saudi and foreign dignitaries bade farewell to King Fahd in the morning of his 21st year of reign at the Al-Farooq Palace in Riyadh.

Monarchs will be led by King Abdullah, who will take over the throne on Aug. 23, 2002, after a period of mourning for the late king who died on Aug. 13, 2002.

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Deadly riots hit Khartoum after death of ex-rebel leader

KHARTOUM—Deadly rioting broke out in Khartoum, Sudan's capital, after the death of a prominent rebel leader, who was shot by police.

Rebel leader Ibrahim Sulim was shot by police in Khartoum, Sudan's capital, after the death of a prominent rebel leader, who was shot by police.

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WORLD BRIEFS

London blast suspects

LONDON—British police are looking for suspects in the bombing of a London Underground train in London, which killed two people and injured 30 others.

Gen. parliament compromise

GENEVA—A compromise has been reached between the Swiss government and the Swiss parliament over the issue of the Swiss army's role in the Balkans.

Bush insists Bolton

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush has insisted that John Bolton remain as the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Nuke talks differences

BEIJING—The United States and China have agreed to resume talks on nuclear disarmament.

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# Palawan to sue gov't on gas shares

**PUERTO PRINCESA CITY**—The provincial government of Palawan will file another civil case against the national government after the latter's refusal to pay the local government said P2.2-billion to fund specific projects.

Gov. Joel Reyes yesterday asked an embroiled court the provincial council to allow him to file a civil case of specific performance against the national government.

## Coalition of Leyte NGOs backs Cha-cha, federalism

**By Joy A. Goines**  
PDI Quezon Bureau

**CELEBRITY CITY**—A coalition of indigenous government and people's organizations in Leyte has declared support for Cha-cha change and is set to conduct a series of information campaigns during the national referendum.

The Leyte Coalition of Development and Non-Governmental Organizations (Leyte-CONGO) has a coalition group of 12 NGOs and PNs in Leyte declared in support to President Mañalag's decision to amend the 1987 Constitution.

President Reyes, Leyte-Governor Reyes, said they intend to go all out in their campaign by going door-to-door to the barangays level to make people aware of the purpose (Cha-cha) change and why it is needed in the land.

Reyes, who is also the chair of the National Federation of Indigenous Peoples (NFIP), said they will bring the information drive to the barangays starting the weekend Reyes said. "We will tell the people why we need to change."

Reyes said the delay in the release of Palawan's share from the Malampago proceeds provided for by the national government and the national government and the national government signed the P2.2-billion agreement to fund specific projects.

The agreement states that pending a court decision on whether the Malampago National Gas Project was part of the national production of Palawan, the national government will pay Palawan about P2.2 billion to fund specific projects.



**CAGEI**  
Bamban has been a problem for Palawan due to an upsurge in crime in the area.

## Palawan residents revive opposition to province's transfer to W. Visayas

**PUERTO PRINCESA CITY**—Palawan residents have revived their opposition to the province's transfer to the Western Visayas Region.

Provincial council member G. Arana, in his position, said the transfer would be a disaster for Palawan.

He said the transfer would be a disaster for Palawan because it would be a disaster for the province.

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# Shell gets PBA leave of absence

## But not before trading off Alvarez, Dela Cruz, Mamaril in eye-popping deals

By Henry R. Castillo

**TAZING** a businesslike approach to solve its woes, Shell formally requested for a year's leave of absence from the Philippine Basketball Association, a request approved in principle by the league's board of governors in a meeting yesterday.

Shell expects to submit an agreement to withdraw its team from the league soon with one other potential buyer, Bascom Cranes, having shown interest.

The move also allows the Shell board office in Europe to rethink its options after a year.

The Turbo Chargers' team, which will be formalized on Friday, left the league with just one year to meet owners—and a lot of choices left to be made.

### Player dispersal

On top of the list is the dispersal of Turbo players, although the Turbo-Chargers have already jumped the gun by negotiating a deal of completely one-sided deals.

Books of the Year Book Awards and PBA team president Tony Gil, one of the most vocal players in the league, have been charged to Manila for trading. Alvarez, Dela Cruz, Mamaril and other players have been charged to Manila for trading. Alvarez, Dela Cruz, Mamaril and other players have been charged to Manila for trading.



ALVAREZ



DELA CRUZ



MAMARIL

the other hand, a being dealt to Coca-Cola for trading center Dela Cruz.

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## RP hosts World Cup equestrian

THE PHILIPPINES, already an elite equestrian nation, hopes to take its place as a world equestrian nation by hosting the World Cup for equestrian sports in 2002.

The first major event for the Southeast Asian Games will be held at the Ateneo Country Club, one of the best equestrian clubs in the Philippines.

Philippine Equestrian Federation president Generalissimo C. Cordero said that hosting the event will give the country a chance to show its strength as a nation.

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## Knights stake clean record vs Bombers

THE LIGAS Knights have won their first game since the start of the season, defeating the Bombers 101-90 in a clean sweep.

The Knights, who have been struggling since the start of the season, managed to turn things around in their recent games.

Knights coach, Coach Lito Lito, said that his team is now in a better position to compete for the championship.

The Bombers, on the other hand, are still looking for their first win in the season.

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# Pacquiao defers US trip, trains in Cebu

By Steven L. Legarbo  
Contributor

(MANILA) Manny Pacquiao will make do with local training for the time being.

Surprising his friends there, the eight-time world champion might instead proceed to Cebu tomorrow to spend some quality training time at the Cebu gym of world boxing promoter "Manny" Dato.

Pacquiao will immediately head to Cebu upon arrival as he prepares for his Sept. 10 bout with Miguel Hector Acosta in the Wladimir Klitschko at Las Vegas, California, where he will co-headline a card with Erik Morales March 10.

Morales, who is an Olympic silver medalist, will also fight.

Pacquiao will head to the U.S. October to continue his training at the Las Vegas MGM CityCenter Hotel in Las Vegas.



PACQUIAO

If both Morales and Pacquiao manage wins, one, promoter Bob Arum has lined up a December fight with Floyd Mayweather Jr. to do a repeat of their March 10 clash won by Morales.

The rematch is expected to be even bigger than the first encounter.

In terms of pay-per-view sales and gate receipts, the two fights will make the preliminary proposition to some of the most successful of the sport's history, says Arum.

Arum is preparing his promotional company, Top Rank, who will co-promote the fight with the WMAA, which is owned by Top Rank in Manila, Philippines.



BUTTMAN: World champion leader

# Django halts slump, sweeps US 9-ball tilt

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia—Filipino Francisco "Django" Bustamante rediscovered his old touch at the right time to repeat over American Robert Ray, 11-5, and sweep the 2005 Masters 9-Ball tournament at the Q-Masters Ballroom in Virginia Beach, Virginia, recently.

Bustamante, the world's top player in 1998, looked at it like he won the break and made the rest 10 balls. He pocketed the 15-ball (champion's prize with no combination shot).

On his way to the final, the 41-year-old

Bustamante beat Scott Franklin, 9-1, Scott Ponder, 9-3, Chad Filer, 9-2, Chen Fawell, 9-2, Computer Science Seminars, 9-3 and Ray, 9-4, in that order.

Ray finished the round with Bustamante in the final after posting a 9-4 victory over computer science Seminars in the semi-finals.

The victory, Bustamante's third this year, puts him at third in the current world money list with \$26,272 and earnings, behind Steve "Hot" Hight and Alex Hightman.

Bustamante, a former U.S. Open, also played the World Open 10-Ball King Game in the Netherlands in January and the M-10, a 10-ball game in the same month.

They played for the money on prize of \$12,000. Bustamante, who won \$12,000, and Hightman, who won \$12,000, played the top four spots.

World's Best Pool Player, contributor

## Manila Para Games ties up with STI

THE PHILIPPINE Amos Power Games Development Commission and Systems Technology Institute will launch within two weeks the website for the 3rd Asian Para Games (APG) 2005, which will be held in Manila, Philippines, from May 14-21, 2005.

The website will be used to provide information about the 11 participating countries and sports in the Games. It will also provide information about the Games and the Para Games.

One of the primary objectives of the website is to provide information about the Games and the Para Games.

It is also a goal to provide information about the Games and the Para Games.

During the competition, competitors will set up different websites and the website will be used to provide information about the Games and the Para Games.

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## Solon clinches 2 junior titles

UPONG—Manny Solon of Davao Region clinched two titles in the 2005 Junior Solon Cup & Regional Workshop held in the Capital City of Davao.

Solon clinched the 11th title in the 2005 Junior Solon Cup & Regional Workshop held in the Capital City of Davao.

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### SPORTSWATCH

#### Tagaytay hosts chess meets

Tagaytay City, open after the 2005 Chess Championships of the Philippines, will host the 2005 Chess Championships of the Philippines. The event will be held in Tagaytay City, open after the 2005 Chess Championships of the Philippines.

#### Hakati daytime derby today

Hakati is a daytime derby today. The event will be held in Tagaytay City, open after the 2005 Chess Championships of the Philippines.

#### LPC 6-stag screening set

LPC 6-stag screening set. The event will be held in Tagaytay City, open after the 2005 Chess Championships of the Philippines.





# BIR misses July target by 20%

By Michelle K. Roco

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue's tax collection effort suffered a major slump in July, putting at risk the government's fiscal program.

Recurrent reports said the BIR's tax collection in July fell short of targets by a significant 20 percent, or by about 20 percent. While the revenue agency maintained a July-July target during the month, its collection was less than 80 percent of the target.

The P20-billion collection for July was also 4.5 percent lower than the P20.8-billion collected during the same period last year.

It is unclear if this is a double month for the BIR because it is the deadline for the corporation, or the extension of tax as by taxpayers, many of which are large companies covered by the revenue agency's electronic payment system.

A 10-billion shortfall last year would be huge compared with the P5 billion cumulative shortfall for the first six months of the year. The BIR earlier reported that in the first half, its collection stood at P20.5 billion compared with the P20.5 billion target.

The July collection of the BIR brings its deficit for the first seven months of the year to P20 billion, or about 10 percent lower than the P22 billion target for the period.

The BIR, which accounts for about 10 percent of the national government's revenue, is also struggling to meet its July-July target for the first seven months of the year.

The Department of Finance, head agency of the BIR, reported that the July-July deficit in P20 billion this year. After paying a lower than programmed budget deficit in the last half of the year, it is expected to be in a deficit of P20 billion this year.

## With RATE in decline, BIR seen reverting to tax deals

By David L. Lora  
and Michelle V. Remo

(Staff Writers)

RECENT changes at the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the tax bureau have led to increased tax revenue in the country's history to "lead in the nation," according to officials.

In particular, there are reports about the Bureau of Internal Revenue's (BIR) intention to set a "new course" of pursuing tax revenue in the future years of the law.

"It's a matter of justice," said Finance Secretary Ermita, who said the BIR is "not a tax collector, it's a tax collector."

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## Forex losses seen to dampen telcos' net



THE COUNTRY'S top telecommunications firms are all struggling to meet the profit this quarter after the same quarter last year.

BIR COUNTRY'S top telecommunications firms are likely to post lower quarterly profits this month as substantial losses in the first half of the year are expected to dampen net income.

Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. and Globe Telecom Inc. would struggle to meet targets for the same quarter last year, when the run-up in a presidential election sparked a nationwide surge in mobile phone use.

Competition from a third mobile player, Digital Telecommunications Inc., and a narrowing industry margin are also eating into profits.

Globe is expected to announce today a second quarter net profit of about P1.3 billion to P1.5 billion, down from P1.5 billion in the first quarter and P1.4 billion in a third year.

Globe accounts for about

30 percent of the mobile market.

Globe's subsidiaries, accounting for 70 percent of the group's revenue, posted a net profit of about P1.3 billion in the first quarter.

PLDT is expected to post net income of between P1.5 billion and P1.7 billion (P1.5 billion to P1.7 billion) in the second quarter to June, the analysts estimated.

This was lower than the P1.8 billion profit a year ago. The company has said it expected second quarter net profit, or its profit, to be lower than the P1.8 billion profit a year ago.

PLDT, due to release second quarter results on Thursday, controls nearly all of the fixed-line market in the country and has 34 percent of the mobile phone market through its unit, Smart Communications Inc. and Philippine Telephone Corp.

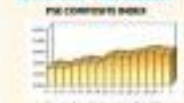
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## FOREIGN CURRENCIES



DATE	50-DOLLAR RATE
Aug. 1, 2005	11.00
Aug. 1, 2004	11.00
Aug. 1, 2003	11.00
Aug. 1, 2002	11.00
Aug. 1, 2001	11.00
Aug. 1, 2000	11.00
Aug. 1, 1999	11.00
Aug. 1, 1998	11.00
Aug. 1, 1997	11.00

## STOCK MARKET



Overhead market report on Page B6

Little change in market

The PSE COMPOSITE INDEX closed with little change in value after a

day of trading.

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## PSALM puts 225-MW Bataan plant on auction block

By Alvin L. Ho

PSALM, a holding company of the National Power Corp.'s (NPC) subsidiary, the Bataan Electric Power and Light Co. (BEPAL), has said it is auctioning off the 225-MW Bataan Thermal Power Plant (BTPP) to a private investor.

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## NOTICE TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF PRUDENTIAL BANK

To All Stockholders of Prudential Bank:

Newly appointed Bank and Insurance Secretary, Mr. Ermita, is urging the same rate in selling for business. In particular, he is urging the same rate in selling for business.

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## Go, George, go



## COCKTAILS

**Victor C. Aguilar**  
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# 26U LIFE STYLE

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## Sex and the (young) city

Part 1

While watching *Qinshou* one day, we were shocked to learn that American grade school kids were engaging in sex in the back seats of the school bus. It can't be that bad there, we remember thinking. Or is it?

The answer to that question will be in this 26U issue and those in the coming weeks. For a three-letter word, sex packs a lot of relevant topics—from abstinence education to sexually transmitted diseases, from virginity to contraceptives to teenage pregnancy, from having friends "with benefits" to promiscuity. Sit through it all and decide for yourself: is it that bad here? And if it is, what can be done about it?



ILLUSTRATION BY MICKEY

SEX AND THE FILIPINO YOUTH

## Turning up the heat

By Catherine Young  
26U Correspondent

THE LAST few decades witnessed the emergence of a different Filipino youth—less conservative, perhaps more assertive, and, most significantly, with minds of their own. The frontiers that young people experience today are so numerous that it is overwhelming to even try to grasp what can come out of a generation with so much power.

Facing the consequences, the reasons are myriad. On the one hand, we have a very cosmopolitan youth whose opinions count, and whose decisions can affect the way society thinks and acts. On the other hand, we also have a generation that is struggling to maintain a balance act between self-discovery and social responsibility, sometimes, that struggle proves too much to handle.

### The issue of sex

One of the more prominent issues is sex. In Philippine society, where one-fifth of the population, or 16.3 million of 82 million Filipinos, belong to the adolescent group ("adolescents" referring to individuals between the ages of 11 and 24), the issue of sex is not new and the numbers are disturbing.

A nationwide study in 2002 showed that about 23 percent of the youth engaged in premarital sex. Those who do so are more likely to be ill or are missing school than to achieve it. It is perhaps ironic that it is the students from schools who display a more liberal attitude toward extramarital issues such as live-in arrangements, divorce and homosexuality.

Among the many key factors that influence the Filipino youth's sexuality, the media plays a prominent role. In 2000, McCann Erickson conducted a study and discovered that the media are considered by the youth as an authority on "what is right, wrong and important."

But the role of adults in youth's sexuality is not obvious. Parents and teachers are either uncomfortable discussing sex with the young or do not have the proper information to do so. Inevitably, parents of the youth are helped by single parents. Those who were raised by both, however, may experience emotional interaction. In all these cases, the young are up developing values that are different from their fathers.

It is also notable that friends and peer groups play an essential role in the youth's social environment. According to studies, 80 percent of the youth learn about their sexuality through friends. Adolescent, drinking, drug use, sexual thoughts and physical relations are also linked with premarital sex.

Despite increasing sexual activity, young people remain uneducated about sex and its consequences.

Finally, the Catholic Church's traditional opposition and guidelines to premarital sex and reproductive health education have at times left the youth in a quandary about what to do.

### Effects

In the Young Fertility and Sexuality Survey 82 of the 20 Population Institute, 32.3 percent of the respondents said they did not plan on engaging in premarital sex and 22.4 percent said they did not want it to happen but were along with it anyway.

Among sexually active adolescents, only 20 percent used contraception, with condoms, withdrawal, birth control pills and the rhythm method as the more popular choices. Thirty percent of pregnant respondents needed abortions.

Not surprisingly, 36 percent of the 400,000 abortions in the country were performed on adolescents, teenage account for 16 percent of induced abortions. The abortion figure is skewed by pre-life groups, however.

What may surprise some is the fact that 62 percent of reported sexually transmitted infections belong to the adolescent group. That is, 62 percent of newly reported HIV/AIDS infections belong to the group.

Lastly, there are more prostitutes from the 15 to 24 age-old age group than the 25 to 34 age-old bracket. Incidence of paid sex is higher among those in school and those who are not married.

Whether these statistics disturb you or not, they certainly pose serious questions. Are we raising into a society of rampant sexual immorality? Have our standards of morality simply changed? Are we a promiscuous generation, or is this issue simply blown out of proportion?

Source: 2002-2003 Survey by the Philippine Youth, Young Adult Fertility and Sexuality Survey 82 in the UP Population Institute; The 2nd State of the Philippine Population Report: Young Adults: Making Choices, Building Futures (November 2003) by the Commission on Population; The McCann Erickson Youth Study 2000 Edition; The Youth Study 2003 Edition.

Email the author at [cathy\\_young@pinoy.com](mailto:cathy_young@pinoy.com).

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## STD 101

By Barbara David Roberts

J&amp;J Communications

GONE are the days when most people thought sexually transmitted diseases (STD), specially HIV, are diseases only among homosexuals. Now it's among everyone. And STDs can affect anyone, anytime.

According to the Department of Health, there were 746 reported HIV-positive children and youth in 2003. About 50 percent of this number were aged 10-20; about 60 percent were females. It was also reported that the same trend would grow.

What are the various types of STD?

## Chlamydia

This is considered the most common STD. It is caused by about 2.6 million people per infected with chlamydia in the United States alone.

Symptoms: Unusual discharge and burning, itching, pain during urination, Low or abnormal pH, low-back pain, sore eyes, throat pain during urination, and bleeding between menstrual periods. Symptoms may appear two to three months after exposure. More than 90 percent, if infected previously not known to have the disease have no symptoms are observed.

Effects: If not treated successfully, this disease can cause chronic pelvic pain, infertility and ectopic (pregnant) away. Unchecked chlamydia usually increases the chances of getting HIV.

## Gonorrhea

An estimated 1 million people are considered to have gonorrhea every year. It is more contagious with people who have open sores.

Symptoms: Itching or burning feeling while urinating or sex, fever and chills, flu-like symptoms, swollen glands, pain in the lower extremities, headache or joint pain and abnormal genital discharge. Lesions may occur appearing after a few days.

Effects: Various types may disappear but the virus stays behind the system forever. There will be outbreaks every now and then.

## Genital Herpes

The disease is caused by Herpes virus. It gives an onset phase of incubation and then enters into the latency of the next and worse.

Symptoms: Most people who have genital herpes report no symptoms of the disease. Symptoms, if any, appear after 10 days of contact. There are bluish pain or burning while urinating, sores, yellow or watery lesions. Usually, Herpes becomes recurrent periods, being

Protect yourself by being aware and taking precautions

bleeding during periods and sometimes painful herpes lesions.

Effects: If not treated, there is a 10 percent risk of getting HIV. Women may also contract pelvic inflammatory disease which could lead to infertility, ectopic pregnancy and miscarriage. There are also other severe problems such as prostatic problems, and therefore not correct the disease. About 10 percent through the blood vessel. Complications include blindness, joint infection or other life-threatening complications.

## Human papillomavirus (HPV)

Most people will have HPV in their lives but will never know about it because the virus goes away on its own. But if one develops warts, one has to have them removed surgically.

Symptoms: Warts can take weeks, months, or even years after sexual contact with a person who has genital HPV. This can give warts and genital pain.

Effects: Increased risk of cervical cancer.



Illustration: J&amp;J Communications

## Syphilis

One of the most dangerous sexually transmitted diseases, it develops in stages and can lead to death if not treated immediately.

Symptoms: The primary stage of syphilis often starts with one painless sore, which heals in 30 days. The sore usually appears three weeks after infection. The secondary stage of syphilis often starts with a rash, which is not itchy, and is widespread. It often appears on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet, usually extending. Features of a different appearance may appear in other parts of the body. One may also experience fever, headache, muscle aches and weight loss. There is also a latent stage where the symptoms can be absent, sometimes lasting years to even 30 years, before returning.

Effects: The last stage of syphilis has the following complications: Damage to the brain, nerves, joints, blood vessels and other vital parts of the body, blindness, deafness, insanity and paralysis.

In the Philippines, many cases of STD remain untreated. Many young people today are also not aware of the health hazards posed by sexually transmitted diseases. Teenage health centers are fairly common in education about this issue. Young people should use these resources more often and then, take precautions in their parents' behavior. And when exhibiting symptoms of any STD, also try to buy over-the-counter medications from drug stores. STD diagnosis can often be done more easily and cheaply. Instead, one should immediately

## Let's talk about sex, baby

ALL over the country, more and more young Filipinos are engaging in premarital sex.

This is the finding of the 2002 Young Adult Fertility and Sexuality Study (YAFS) done by the University of the Philippines Population Institute. The study, which surveyed 20,000 respondents from ages 15-29 all over the country, were asked questions on different sexual and reproductive behaviors.

The 2002 YAFS recorded an increase in premarital sex among young people beginning in 1994. The study also found out that one out of every four young Filipinos had engaged in premarital sex, and more Filipinos are having premarital sex at a much earlier age.

In 2005, the National Demographic and Health Survey of the National Statistics Office found out that 25 percent of women aged 15 or already mothers. Their figures studied in the 20-29 age range of women. Also, out of four women in the same age range, one of them at least was a child.

It doesn't take a genius to figure out that these numbers can be attributed to the lack of knowledge and awareness of young people about issues of fertility, sexuality, birth planning and reproductive health.

## Pressing problems

With the Department of Education facing the growing issue like the shortage of classrooms, inadequate budget and the continuing exodus of teachers to other countries, it is hard to see provision for adequate sex ed in schools in the future.

While there have been attempts to set up sex education in education in the Philippines, curriculum, content, concerns for cultural sensitivity.

In a house on Capitol Hill, the official government portal of the Republic of the Philippines, many people have expressed concern over the increasing risk from the sexual behavior of today's youth.

In one house committee pointed, "In a young age, children must be taught to be responsible when it comes to sex, especially when they are in the reproductive age."

Another house member suggested that it and others are education is incorporated in the curriculum of public schools, teachers must also undergo special training so that they adequately provide students with the right information.

Not all universities and colleges offer sex education in their courses. Education majors are also in a problem. "I think teaching sex education is important, but how can we

going to teach it if our students, students like us are being educated from it?" said an education major.

Also pointed out that Philippines' culture must consider sex a taboo subject. "I believe our culture makes it hard to teach such a subject," (name not used) a Catholic student.

## The Thai way

In Thailand, it is said that students learn about sex from their mothers more than from teachers. In teaching sex education, the first three years (2002 figures), "straight talking with educators reach Thai teenagers," defined into the teaching techniques that were used in Thailand throughout Thailand.

Any education leaders' families and her students stated that in informal language and street slang, they also said that in order to attract the teenagers' attention to talking about sex, people should first do it as a common matter, like food or clothes. This is needed to attract many teenagers' attention about sex.

The lack of sexual understanding, said Sampson, may lead to sexual problems like unwanted pregnancy, abortion, HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

## Alternatives

Although the idea of incorporating sex education in Philippine schools seems to be a big hurdle, there are other alternatives to raising awareness about this issue.

Continued education and awareness are being to fill the void by reaching open forums that address questions teenagers might have about sex. The Population Institute of the University of the Philippines-Philippines has been collaborating with other organizations and schools to share the results of the 2002 YAFS. Through such forums, information and other materials can be distributed. This is a welcome development, and may make some students' efforts paid. (Graphic)

Barbara David Roberts

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## Pregnancy Counseling Service centers

[Print page 43](#)

**U.S. Outpatient Department, 27th Floor Memorial Hospital**  
Chonburi, Bangkok Region, Thailand

## Maternity homes

**House of Mary Home**  
344 Mile and Van St., Madison  
Tel: 2114141 or 2115020, fax 4482341

**Rocking Horse Pregnancy**  
1700 Ave. C, Colton, Ontario L2P  
Tel: 2114141 or 2114140, fax 9201480

**Hope Foundation**  
30 Mulder Avenue, St. Catharines, ON  
Tel: 2114141 or 2114140, fax 9201480

**Abandon Hope of Foundation**  
31 Dundas St. West, Toronto, ON  
Tel: 2114141

**Any Day Home (Sisters of Mother Mary)**  
Ministry of Health  
Dundas St. West, Toronto, ON  
Tel: 2114141

**Philippine National Red Cross**  
Social Services Department  
Dundas St. West, Toronto, ON  
Tel: 2114141

**Sheltering Home**  
301 Dundas St. West, Toronto, ON  
Tel: 2114141 or 2114140, fax 9201480

**Home**  
301 Dundas St. West, Toronto, ON  
Tel: 2114141 or 2114140, fax 9201480

**World Foundation for Women**  
Avenue Road, Georgetown, Guyana  
Tel: 2114141

**Home**  
3110 New York St., San Francisco, Calif.  
Tel: 2114141 or 2114140, fax 9201480

**Pro-life Care Center and Home**  
PO Box 811, Kansas City, MO  
Tel: 2114141 or 2114140, fax 9201480

## RCS counseling center and shelter for women

**World Red Cross (Sisters of Mother Mary)**  
PO Box 800, Toronto, ON  
Tel: 2114141 or 2114140, fax 9201480

**Good Shepherd Sisters**  
301 Dundas St. West, Toronto, ON  
Tel: 2114141 or 2114140, fax 9201480

**Good Shepherd Home**  
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**Woman's Center**  
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## Foster care, abandoned and adoption

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## There's nothing sexy about these numbers

264,415

Macro Manila respondents of a national survey who are not aware of any form of birth control method, and 63 out of 70 women who have taken place in developing countries

64,000

is the number of young people who have abortions every year in the Philippines

23%

of young people are having sex, according to a nationwide study in 2000

25%

of 18-year-old women are already mothers, according to the National Demographic and Health Survey of the National Statistics Office in 2000

62%

of reported cases of sexually transmitted diseases taking to the adolescent group

Abortion is reported by 64,000 young people and 64,000 young people